



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
City of Duluth Police Department

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DATE: 10/07/2010

NATURE OF INCIDENT: October Click It or Ticket

CASE NO.:

INCIDENT DATE :10/08/2010

INCIDENT TIME:

INCIDENT LOCATION: Regional

SUBJECT: Driving 4 Safe Communities "Click It or Ticket"

BY: Officer Brad Wick, Information Coordinator

The Duluth Police Department, along with the Driving 4 Safe Communities that include: Saint Louis County Sheriff's Office; UMD Police; Proctor Police; Hermantown Police; and Floodwood Police; are implementing an enhanced seatbelt / child seat use enforcement that will take place during the month of October.

Area law enforcement will be adding additional patrols during this time period as part of Minnesota's Safe and Sober "Click It or Ticket" Campaign. Officers will seek out drivers and passengers who are not wearing their seatbelts and children riding who are not properly restrained in a child restraint or booster seat. Occupants not wearing seatbelts will be ticketed. A seatbelt violation in Saint Louis County will cost you \$110.

During 2009 in Saint Louis County there were 6 unbelted occupants killed in motor vehicle crashes while 13 unbelted occupants sustained serious injuries. Recently two unbelted occupants involved in a 3-vehicle crash at Maple Grove Road and Haines Road were seriously injured after they were ejected onto the roadway. Not wearing a seatbelt could cost you serious injury or your life if involved in a crash.

The Minnesota primary seat belt law requires drivers and all passengers to be buckled up or in the correct child restraint or booster seat. The law requires a child to use a booster seat until they are age 8 or reach 4 feet 9 inches tall. Properly wearing a seat belt reduces the risk of fatal injury by 45 percent in a car and 60 percent in a light truck and is the most effective means of protecting oneself from injury. Odds are six-times greater for injury if a motorist is not buckled up. Unbelted motorists can crash into a windshield or slam into other passengers and injure them. Often, an unbelted motorist is ejected from the vehicle and killed.

The goal of area law enforcement and Driving 4 Safe Communities is to drive us all Toward Zero Deaths on our roadways. We can all start toward that goal by buckling up. Always remember, "Click It or Ticket".

